United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, Illinois 60604 Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin

⊕EPA

Environmental NEWS RELEASE



CONTACT:

Mick Hans, (312) 353-5050 Dave Novak, (312) 886-7478



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 03-OPA087

MASTER METALS - DETROIT UPDATE: SECOND PHASE OF KRAINZWOOD LEAD CONTAMINATION SAMPLING COMPLETE; SMELTER PROPERTY CLEANUP CONTINUES

CHICAGO (June 11, 2003) — U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has completed the second phase of lead contamination testing in Detroit's Krainzwood neighborhood.

Since March, EPA has collected 370 soil samples from 109 residential properties and another 187 samples from Atkinson Elementary School, a park next to the school and the Sojourner Truth housing complex. Residential properties with lead levels above 400 parts per million will receive letters from EPA explaining the results and EPA's plans for removing the contaminated soil. Preliminary data suggests more than half of the residential properties and two areas in the Sojourner Truth complex have lead levels above 400 ppm. EPA will announce official laboratory analysis results soon. The school and park properties did not contain any samples above 400 parts per million.

MASTER METALS-DETROIT UPDATE: SECOND PHASE OF KRAINZWOOD LEAD CONTAMINATION SAMPLING COMPELTE; SMELTER PROPERTY CLEANUP CONTINUES page 2

On a separate track from the residential work, cleanup at the former Master Metals site at 4700 E. Nevada St. continues. Currently, contaminated concrete pads are being demolished and prepared for shipping, along with contaminated soil, to an approved waste facility. EPA expects to finish cleanup at the Master Metals property by late 2003.

An informational meeting on health issues related to lead will be held June 24, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Atkinson Elementary School, 4900 E. Hilldale. A separate meeting to update the community on the Master Metals cleanup and the recent soil sampling will be held June 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Atkinson Elementary School.

#